

MAR 24 1955

HERALD TRIBUNE

Approved For Release 2000/05/24 : CIA-RDP75-00149

STATINTL

Aramco Pact Talks

The Saudi Arabia government and the Arabian American Oil Co. have selected representatives to decide whether the government violated its agreement with Aramco in giving preference to tankers owned by Aristotle Socrates Onassis in transporting Arabian oil. The two are now in Switzerland attempting to agree on a third and neutral member for their panel.

The government's representative is Dr. Helmy Bahjat Badawi, former Egyptian Minister of Foreign Affairs, while Aramco's selection is Dr. Sasaba Habashi, also a former Egyptian government official who has been an adviser to Aramco for some time.

The disputed agreement between Mr. Onassis and the Saudi Arabian government would give his tankers preference in carrying Arabian petroleum in return for a small royalty to the government for each ton carried plus creation of a Saudi Arabian tanker fleet financed and operated by Mr. Onassis. Aramco contends the agreement violates its concession.

CPYRIGHT